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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 21

2 February 1949

1. Members present were as follows:

Dr. Dunn	State
Lt. Col. Ruwet	Army
Lt. Col. DeHority	Navy
Lt. Col. Gould	Air Force
Maj. Gamber	Air Force
25X1A9a [REDACTED]	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA

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2. Copies of G/Ba monthly production report were distributed to the members.

3. The matter of TOP SECRET classification for NIS material was discussed. It was pointed out that this classification tends to vitiate one of the fundamental purposes of NIS; viz., to place basic intelligence in the hands of as many valid users as possible. Specifically, the proposed classification of TOP SECRET for Section 83 (Air Force Section, Chapter VIII - Armed Forces) was again brought up (see Minutes of NIS Committee Meeting No. 12). The Air Force member stated that the matter had been reconsidered by the Department of the Air Force and the decision retained that certain important parts of this section must be classified TOP SECRET. The Air Force member also stated that to remove the TOP SECRET material and publish the section as SECRET would render the published material not only of little value but, in fact, misleading. The Army member said that there would be certain portions of Army contributions which would also require TOP SECRET classification. The consensus was that NIS Committee members should assume the responsibility of seeing that classifications are constantly reexamined with a view to lowering the higher classifications. Since TOP SECRET material must be published in the form of separate supplements, members are to bring with them to the next meeting (1000 hours, 15 February 1949) their Agency requirements for these supplements.

4. The use of provisional base maps was reviewed. It was explained that, at present, because of the peak load of work generated in Map Branch, CIA, by the implementation of the NIS Program, the base map schedule has, in some instances, lagged behind Agency production needs. After June 1949, the base map schedule will be abreast of, or in advance of, Agency needs;

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and, by FY 1950, base maps should be available in plenty of time to satisfy Agency production needs. In the meantime, Agencies may apply directly to Map Branch for provisional base maps. These will be existing maps which meet as nearly as practicable the specifications of the final base map. They will be supplied to Agencies along with base map compilation data. The Agencies may then place intelligence data directly on these maps, make needed photographs of them, and send the requisite number of copies, along with other material, to G/Ba. When the final base maps are available, the contributing Agency will transfer data to them and forward to G/Ba.

The question was raised about what would happen if all the other material were ready for publication before the base map was received. The Chairman answered that, because of the current state of progress in base map production, he did not anticipate that such a situation would arise; but that, if it did, publication of the other material would proceed whenever feasible.

5. It was pointed out that NIS contributions recently received indicate that sub-contributors, while adequately qualified in their topical fields, have insufficient knowledge of the areas with which their studies are concerned; that this lack of knowledge has given rise to deficiencies which could have been avoided had the sub-contributor had area as well as technical knowledge; and that it appears wise to have area specialists in the Agencies give substantive review to material prepared by sub-contributors. In any event, coordinating staffs are responsible to see that contributions have adequate substantive review in the Agencies before being sent to G/Ba.

6. In discussing the general progress of NIS production, the Chairman stated that FY 1949 is the period of growing pains for the NIS Program and that it is more important to realign capabilities, perfect procedures, and turn out high quality material than to meet to the letter the requirement of producing the equivalent of six (6) complete NIS; that FY 1950 should see all the Agencies prepared to meet full requirements both quantitatively and qualitatively; and that it may be well to restudy capabilities and revise the Production Schedule for FY 1949 so as to bring it realistically within those capabilities. All IAC Agency members insisted that their Agencies are exerting every possible effort to meet commitments. It was the consensus of these members that it is yet too early to make such a restudy of capabilities with a view to revising the FY 1949 Schedule and that all Agencies should continue to endeavor to meet all commitments both qualitatively and quantitatively.

7. It was announced that NIS S45 is to deal with Okinawa Island only, and not with the Okinawa Group. This reflects Joint Staff interpretation of "Okinawa" appearing in their Priority List.

8. A question was raised by the Air Force member relative to Navy contributions to Section 23C (EFFECTS OF WEATHER AND CLIMATE ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES). It was decided that this question should be taken up between

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Navy and Air Force on the working level.

9. Color proofing for maps was discussed. This has been designated as the responsibility of the Agencies where they have capabilities to accomplish it. It has been found, however, that the mapping and charting elements of Army, Navy, and Air Force (Army Map Service, Hydrographic Office, and Aeronautical Chart Service) produce the great bulk of their output by the press proof method and have very limited capabilities for color proofing. Hence, in order to reduce bottlenecks and save the Armed Forces Agencies the expense of purchasing additional equipment and hiring additional personnel, G/Ba tentatively agreed to make available the GPO facilities for color proofing requirements of those Agencies which did not have existing facilities for this work.

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Distribution:

Dr. Dunn

Lt.Col. Ruwet

Lt.Col. DeHority

Lt.Col. Gould

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